

Message Text

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ORIGIN NSF-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OES-03 L-02 IO-10 OFA-01 ACDA-05

COME-00 INT-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 CG-00 DOTE-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-06

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DRAFTED BY NSF - JHEG

APPROVED BY OES/SCI/BMP:AERICHMOND

OES/SCI/BMP:TSELLIN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 118907

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: XV, TGEN, OCON, NO

SUBJECT: EIGHTH ANTARCTIC TREATY CONSULTATIVE MEETING:
AGENDA

REF: A) STATE 108567, B) OSLO 2005

1. REF A WAS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO TINKER WITH AGENDA AS ALLEGED IN PARA 3 REF B. TINKERING BY UK AND NORWEGIANS IS THE PROBLEM, AS SEEN BY US. IN FACT, REF A WAS A PROTEST AGAINST UNANTICIPATED AND PROCEDURALLY IRREGULAR EXPANSION OF AGREED PROVISIONAL AGENDA.

2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH PAST PRACTICE THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR SUBJECT MEETING CONSISTS OF THE 19 ITEMS ADOPTED AT OCTOBER PREPCOM PLUS THE NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL TO ADD ITEM ON ANTARCTIC BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES APPROVED BY THE FEBRUARY PREPCOM. POSITION OF LATTER ITEM ON AGENDA WAS NOT DISCUS-
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SED AT THAT PREPCOM. THIS ISSUE IS NOT IMPORTANT AND WILL BE HANDLED AS SUGGESTED IN REF B. PURPOSE OF REF A, IN PART, WAS TO REMIND MR. STORHAUG THAT THE ORDER OF ITEMS WAS DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH AT OCTOBER PREPCOM, WHERE ALL

REPS AGREED THAT MINERAL RESOURCES SHOULD BE THE LAST
SUBSTANTIVE ITEM.

3. WE VIEW INSERTION OF MARINE SPA AND SSSI'S AS TINKERING
WITH AGENDA. MATTER WAS BROUGHT TO ATTENTION OF FEBRUARY
PREPCOM BY UK BUT WAS NOT ACCEPTED BY OTHER REPS. AS A
MATTER OF PROCEDURAL PRINCIPAL WE BELIEVE THESE TOPICS
SHOULD BE HANDLED IN SAME MANNER AS SUGGESTED LAST
SENTENCE PARA 2 REF B, IF UK DESIRES TO PRESS THE ISSUE.
OUR VIEWS ON MARINE AREAS, SET FORTH IN REF A, REMAIN
UNCHANGED. WE WILL NOT OPPOSE INCLUSION THESE ITEMS
DURING DISCUSSION ON ADOPTION OF AGENDA IF THAT IS THE
WILL OF MEETING, BUT WILL NOT BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE
IN ANY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION.

4. WE FULLY SHARE UK AND NORWEGIAN HOPE AND EXPECTATION
THAT THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING WILL PROCEED IN OPEN AND
FRIENDLY MANNER AS IN PAST; HOWEVER WE DO NOT EQUATE
UNEXPECTED ADDITIONS TO THE JOINTLY AGREED PROVISIONAL
AGENDA WITH THE HOPED FOR "UNFORMALITY" MENTIONED REF B.

5. WE EXPECT TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN DISCUSSIONS ON ALL
ITEMS ON AGREED AGENDA. WE WILL SHORTLY SEND COPIES OF 9
DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS OR PROPOSALS AND SEVERAL INFORMATION
DOCUMENTS TO EMBASSY FOR DELIVERY TO STORHAUG FOR TRANS-
LATION.

6. EMBASSY SHOULD INFORM MFA OF ABOVE VIEWS AS APPROPRIATE.
INGERSOLL

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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